

**Primary School
Expansion 2011**

**Proposals
for the
Kingston
Town
Area**

Kingston Council is proposing to expand a number of schools in the Kingston Town area in September 2011 and we would like to hear your views.

Please fill in the form and return it to us (using freepost or online at www.kingston.gov.uk/school_expansion) with your comments by **Monday, 10 May 2010**

You can learn more about these proposals by attending one of our public meetings at the school venues listed on page 2 of this document.

If you require further information about this proposal please contact us on tel: 020 8547 5234 or via our website www.kingston.gov.uk/school_expansion

If you have difficulty reading this document because of a disability or because English is not your first language, we can help you. Please call our helpline on 020 8547 5757 or ask someone to call on your behalf.

Kingston Primary Expansion Strategy

Proposals to expand school places in the Kingston Town area are set within the context of changes in demand for school places across Kingston and at a local and national level. Since 2008, the Royal Borough of Kingston has faced unprecedented demand for school places in its primary schools. The borough has had to respond to make additional places available for Reception Year (Year R / first year of Primary/Infant School at age 4) classes onwards. These places were added on a temporary basis in order to ensure that sufficient places were available for all resident children who required a place. This strategy details how Kingston will permanently provide an additional 13.5 Forms of Entry (405 places) in Reception from September 2011 onwards to meet the expected future demand for places.

In September 2008, an additional 7 Forms of Entry (210 places) were added to Kingston Primary Schools to provide extra places in the form of additional (bulge) classes to deal with increased demand for a primary school place. This was followed by an additional 10 Forms of Entry (300 places) in 2009 and a further 10 Forms of Entry in 2010 (300 places). This was always recognised as a temporary solution largely through the use of temporary accommodation on various school sites, and did not permanently change the Published Admission Number.

These proposals to expand existing primary school places in the Kingston Town area by 4 Forms of Entry, along with others outlined below, form the Local Authority's plan to provide permanently an additional 13.5 Forms of Entry (405 places). This permanent expansion will provide a total of 1,980 places to meet expected demand with a reasonable level of extra places to provide for a degree of parental preference and places for families moving into the area. In producing its strategy the Local Authority has taken into account a number of factors including; popularity of schools, suitability of site for expansion, geographical location and balance of community/ Voluntary Aided school places. It should be noted that many pupils attend a school in a different school planning area to the one in which they live.

Strategy for Permanent Expansion

* fe = Forms of Entry

| School Places Planning Area | School | Number of places to be added | New size of school (places per year) | Date of Public Meeting |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Kingston Town | Latchmere Primary | +30 | 120 (4 fe*) | 23 March 2010 |
| | Fern Hill Primary | +30 | 90 (3 fe) | 31 March 2010 |
| | King Athelstan Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 25 March 2010 |
| | Alexandra Infants & St Paul's Junior | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 25 March 2010 (Infant site) |
| | | | | |
| Surbiton | St Matthew's Primary | +15 | 60 (2fe) | 23 March 2010 |
| | Grand Avenue Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 24 March 2010 |
| | New School | +60 | 60 (2fe) | 29 March 2010 |
| Maldens & Coombe | Burlington Infants & Junior Schools | +30 | 120 (4fe) | 26 April 2010 (Infant site) |
| | Christ Church New Malden Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 29 April 2010 (Junior site) |
| | Corpus Christi Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 28 April 2010 |
| | Malden Manor Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 27 April 2010 |
| South of the Borough | Ellingham Primary | +30 | 60 (2fe) | 29 April 2010 |
| | Lovelace Primary | +30 | 90 (3fe) | 27 April 2010 |

There are separate consultations for each of the four planning areas. Public meetings will be held at each of the schools listed above. These consultation documents are available online on our website (www.kingston.gov.uk/school_expansion) or by calling 020 8547 5251. All meetings start at 7pm apart from Alexandra Infants which starts at 7.30pm. The New School public meeting will be held at The Surbiton Masonic Hall, Glenmore House, 6 The Crescent, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4BN.

Why are more Primary school places needed?

As outlined above, temporary increases in the number of primary school places have been necessary since 2008 to provide sufficient capacity within Kingston primary schools. The permanent capacity of 1575 places has proved inadequate for a number of reasons, including: -

- The birth rate has risen by 23% between 2002/03 and 2007/08 – single biggest factor
- An increasing proportion of resident children applying for a Kingston Primary School place of the corresponding years' number of live births (increased from approximately 80% - 90%)
- Kingston Primary Schools are popular and high achieving driving up demand for places, many from those outside of the Borough
- New housing developments including increasing numbers of school aged children living in smaller dwellings particularly flats
- Reduced demand for independent sector school places due to the performance of the economy
- Changes in the housing market resulting in fewer families moving away from Kingston

Forecast for Reception places required in Kingston Borough**

| School Year | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of Live Births | 2024 | 2140 | 2202 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Reception pupils projected | 1801 | 1905 | 1963 | 1972 | 1969 | 1952 |
| New Permanent Capacity | 1875* | 1980 | 1980 | 1980 | 1980 | 1980 |
| Surplus places | 74 | 75 | 17 | 8 | 11 | 38 |

* Includes 300 temporary places through additional classes

** Revised forecasts incorporating latest population data will be available shortly and whilst confirming a sustained high birth rate are expected to reduce the reception pupils forecast for 2012/12–2014/15 creating some additional surplus capacity

Population estimates of numbers of four year olds and places in the Kingston Town Area**

| School Year | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Estimated population of four year olds | 512 | 533 | 540 | 566 | 580 | 590 | 596 |
| Year R School places | 420 | 480* | 510* | 540* | 540 | 540 | 540 |

* Includes bulge classes added to Kingston Town area schools

** Not all children in the area apply for a place at a Kingston Primary School. Permanent capacity of 540 will be sufficient to provide a place for all children in the area who will require one.

Proposals for the Kingston Town Area

The number of places per year group in Kingston Town Area primary schools is currently 420 (14 Forms of Entry). The number of places is proposed to increase to 540 (18 Forms of Entry) from September 2011. This would be achieved by expanding four schools by 30 places each (one Form of Entry). All of these additional places are required to ensure there is sufficient capacity in the area.

Latchmere Primary School

The school is currently a three form entry primary school with 90 places per year group and capacity overall for 630 pupils. It is proposed that the school is expanded to become a four form entry primary school with capacity for 840 pupils.

The plans involve the construction of a brand new classroom block, adding a new kitchen, servery, demolishing the existing hall and replacing with a larger one and alterations and enhancements to existing buildings. Phasing of the new build will be considered.

Fern Hill Primary School

The school is currently a two form entry primary school with 60 places per year group and capacity overall for 420 pupils. It is proposed that the school is expanded to become a three form entry primary school with capacity for 630 pupils.

The plans involve construction of a brand new classroom block, an additional school hall, remodelling of a number of existing classrooms and other facilities and new Information Communication Technology and general activities space. It is unlikely that phasing will be considered.

King Athelstan Primary School

The school is currently a two form entry primary school with 60 places per year group and capacity overall for 420 pupils. It is proposed that the school is expanded to become a three form entry primary school with capacity for 630 pupils.

The plans involve the construction of a brand new wing to the school to provide additional classrooms, staff accommodation and other activity rooms. The existing school infrastructure will be remodelled.

Alexandra Infant Community / St Paul's Church of England Junior Schools

These schools are separate two form entry infant/junior schools with 60 places per year group and a combined capacity for 420 pupils. It is proposed that these schools are expanded to both become three form entry, providing a new combined capacity of 630.

Alexandra Infants will have new classrooms and some remodelling of existing accommodation to provide additional capacity for the permanent addition of 90 children and additional staff.

St Pauls would have additional classrooms added to the existing building with adaptations to the interior to improve the quality of existing accommodation.

School Size and School Effectiveness

Kingston has a well established reputation for high quality education for children and young people and the Council intends to maintain and improve its schools. In order to inform its proposals, the Council has undertaken research into the relationship between primary school size and school effectiveness. This has found that there is no proven link between the size of school and quality of education. Rather, research shows that school leadership, ethos and quality of teaching and learning are the most important factors. In Kingston we have a very high proportion of good and outstanding schools and they come in all sizes. Although our larger schools currently tend to have the strongest Ofsted judgements and academic results, we do not believe size to be the determining factor.

Planning and Design

Initial feasibility studies have been completed for each of the schools which are proposed for expansion. This has shown that there is the potential for each school to be expanded on its existing site, subject to detailed designs which will be the subject of separate statutory planning processes and consultation.

Detailed design proposals are currently being developed in partnership with each school and Diocesan authorities where appropriate. This is looking at how to provide the best possible design for new buildings and refurbishment of existing accommodation where appropriate whilst working within a limited overall budget. Each school's expanded accommodation will be fit for 21st Century education. Proposals will also need to take account of their relationship with and potential impact on their surrounding areas.

Designs will be available from May onwards and will be shared widely with the local community and current and prospective parents/carers through exhibitions and pre-planning application and statutory consultations.

Special Educational Needs

At the heart of the Local Authority's strategy for Special Educational Needs (SEN) is a vision that all Kingston Schools are inclusive and welcoming. There is existing specialist resourced provision (SRP) at a number of mainstream primary schools and we know that with an increasing demand for school places, the number of children with SEN is increasing. Our SEN strategy sets out our plan to establish more specialist support in schools and plans will be forthcoming to establish new provision in a number of primary schools across the Borough, including Kingston Town.

Early Years Provision

There are no plans to increase the numbers of Nursery places within schools that are the subject of expansion. Additional places are being made available through new provision at other schools and in the Private, Voluntary and Independent sector.

Promoting Sustainable Travel

A number of measures will be necessary to manage the impact of additional pupils on individual schools. During the planning application process the Local Authority will need to have demonstrated that an increase in the number of places at the schools will not have an adverse impact for existing pupils or the local community/transport network.

Additional places are required to provide sufficient places for children living within close proximity to schools subject to expansion. Many pupils will live within easy walking distance and measures such as School Travel Plans will have an important role to play in promoting sustainable travel (walking, cycling, public transport), reducing car use and minimising impact.

What happens next?

These consultations are amongst a number of related consultations taking place across the Borough to expand the number of places for entry to Reception Year in September 2011. All consultations for Kingston Town and Surbiton area schools (including establishing a new primary school) are taking place on the timetable outlined below. Consultations for schools in the Maldens and Coombe Area and South of the Borough will be taking place from 19 April – 1 June 2010 (see page 2 for details). Final decisions on all expansion proposals are expected to be made in September 2010.

Thank you for taking time to read this document. There is a tear off section on pages 7 and 8 of the document for you to complete and return, or you can respond online via www.kingston.gov.uk/school_expansion

Your views are important to us and will be reported to Kingston's Executive on 8 June 2010 when it will be decided whether to issue Public Notices to expand individual schools. The timetable below sets out the next steps following this consultation including your opportunity to comment on the design proposals for each school (correct at time of publication).

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 15 March 2010 | Statutory consultation on school expansion begins |
| 23 - 31 March 2010 | Public meetings held |
| 10 May 2010 | Close of this consultation |
| 15 May 2010 | Design proposals shared at Primary School Exhibition (venue to be confirmed) |
| May – June 2010 | Pre-planning application consultation on scheme for sites plus display of designs at each school location |
| 26 May 2010 | Maldens & Coombe and Surbiton Neighbourhood meetings to have a display of the designs |
| 27 May 2010 | South of the Borough and Kingston Town Neighbourhood meetings to have a display of the designs |
| 8 June 2010 | Kingston Executive considers results of school consultations and decides whether to issue a Public Notice to expand each school |
| 24 June 2010 | If agreed, Public Notice issued |
| 21 July 2010 | Public Notices expire |
| July to November 2010 | Submission of planning application, consultation and consent obtained |
| 7 September 2010 | Kingston Executive considers comments received on Public Notices and decides whether to approve the proposals |
| October 2010 | Local Authority implements proposal or refers it to the Schools Adjudicator if a statutory appeal has been received |
| October 2010 | Application made to the Schools Adjudicator to vary the Published Admission Number of the school so that the proposal can be implemented* |
| September 2011 onwards | Building works completed and permanent expansion of school delivered |

* It is a requirement to seek a permanent change to Published Admission Number (PAN) after proposals for expansion of a school have been agreed. This is because PANs are determined by April of the previous year (ie PANs for September 2011 are determined by April 2010).